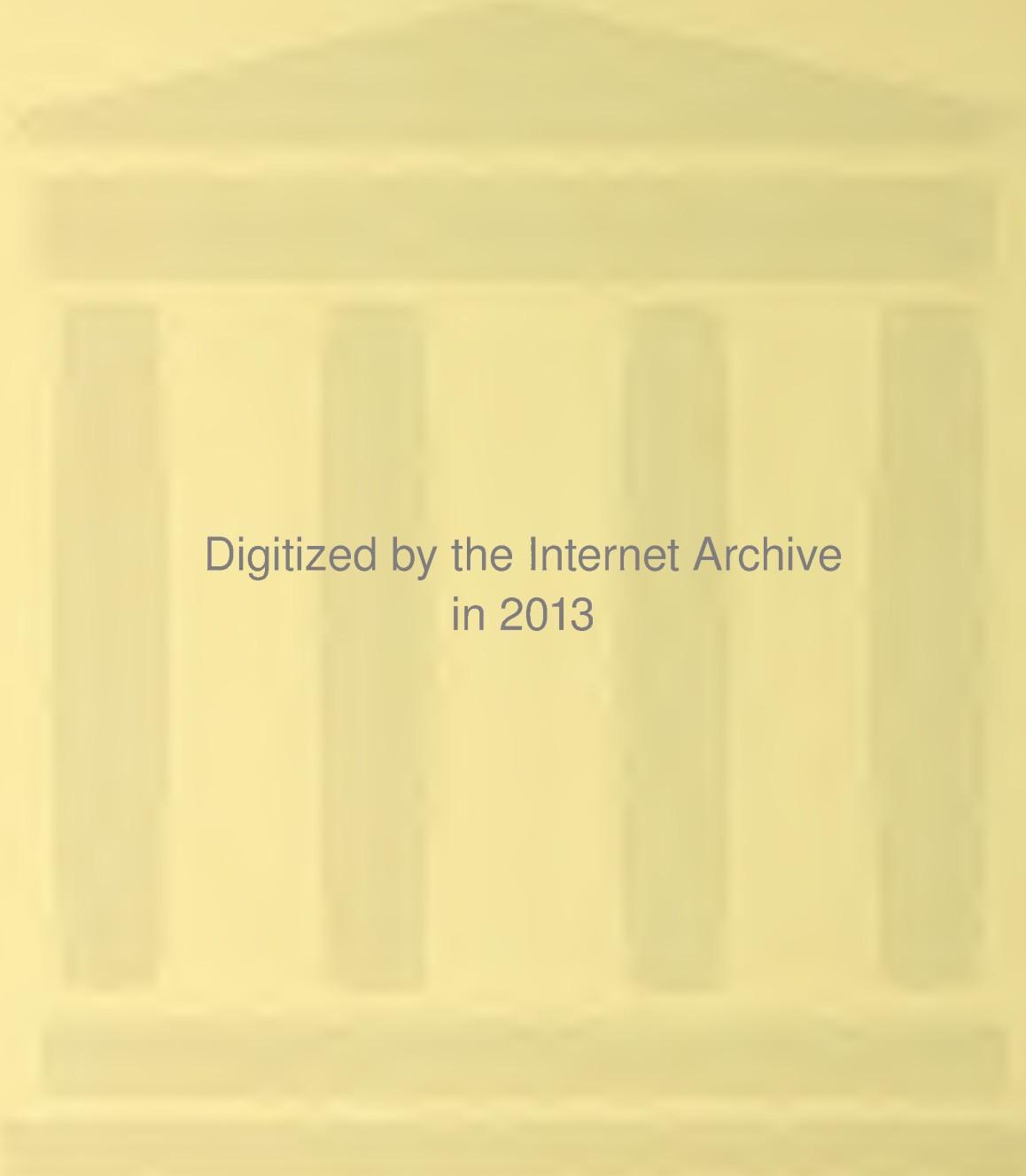


ELECTION RESULTS 1970

U.S. House

ELECTION RESULTS

71.200% Yea 24.7%



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# Abraham Lincoln's Political Career through 1860

## Election Results 1860

Excerpts from newspapers and other sources

From the files of the  
Lincoln Financial Foundation Collection



# Rockingham Register.

HARRISONBURG, VA.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 19, 1860.

The Largest Circulation of any Country Paper published in Virginia.

## LOCAL NOTINGS.

**G** Hon. TIM. RIVES, of Prince George, will address the people at McGaheysville on Friday night next, the 26th inst., at early candlelighting. Let all who desire to hear one of the greatest of Virginia's orators turn out to hear him.

**G** Absence from our post for a day or two has prevented us from attending to our duties.

**G** Our friend, REUBEN COFFMAN, near Mt. Clinton, has sent us "a few potatoes," which are by no means "small potatoes." One of them weighed a pound and three quarters! and the others were also of uncommon size. The half dozen or so sent us measured nearly a peck. Land which produces such potatoes must needs be good. We wonder that friend COFFMAN wishes to sell it.

**G** TIM RIVES, Esq., one of the ablest defenders of the Union, and the Constitution, will address the people of Rockingham at the Court-House, on Saturday next. Let all come to hear him.

## TELEGRAPHIC NEWS.

### Georgia Politics.

AT GUSTA, Oct. 21.—There are active movements in progress to concentrate the vote of Georgia on one ticket. An executive committee has invited the Douglassites and friends of Mr. Bell to fraternization. The Breckinridge men generally oppose the movement.

### Massachusetts Politics.

BOSTON, October 20.—The three parties opposed to the Republican have fused in the fourth and fifth districts, uniting on Messrs. Bigelow and Applingon for Congress, against Messrs. Rice and Burlingame.

### Virginia Legislature Election.

RICHMOND, October 20.—Nelson (in favor of Breckinridge) is elected to the House from Fluvanna county, by 64 majority. The democratic gain in the county since the last Governor's election is 220.

### Bids for Government Loans.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 22.—There are from forty to fifty bidders for the \$10,000,000 government loan none of the bidders except Riggs & Corcoran of Washington, being South of Philadelphia. The whole aggregate of the bids is less than \$10,000,000. The premiums range from 5 per cent. down to 99-100 of one per cent. The largest amount bid for is by Riggs, of Washington, \$2,800,000.

### Political Demonstration.

BALTIMORE, Oct. 23.—The Breckinridge and Lane men had a grand torchlight procession to-night. The men were equipped with red Zouave caps, glazed capes, and torches. They claim to have had 1,200 in line.

## Miscellaneous.

### PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION.

THE following persons are appointed as Commissioners and Officers to conduct the Election of President and Vice-President of the United States, to be held on Tuesday, the 6th day of November, 1860:

#### DISTRICT NO. 1.

*Couraud's Store.*—Geo. W. Hansberger, Jacob Beck and Thos. K. Miller, Commissioners; and George W. Sandford, Officer.  
*McGaheysville.*—G. W. Mauzy, B. F. Thomas and A. J. Johnson, Commissioners; and John W. Melhorn, Officer.

#### DISTRICT NO. 2.

*Taliaferro's Store.*—Wm. Staufley, E. S. Kemper and Isaac Long, Commissioner; and Charles A. Van Lear, Officer.

*Port-Royal.*—Jacob Strayer, Stephen Hansberger and Joseph Altaffer, Commissioners; and James A. Lewis, Officer.

#### DISTRICT NO. 3.

*Mt. Crawford.*—Jacob P. Stusser, McD. Harris and Josiah S. Roller, Commissioners; and Adam Pifer, Officer.

*Dayton.*—Daniel Bierly, John A. Herring and Gordon R. Harrell, Commissioners; and E. W. Pollard, Officer.

#### DISTRICT NO. 4.

*Bridgewater.*—A. W. Brown, G. R. Gibbons and Frederick Speck, Commissioners; and Henry Smalls, Officer.

*Ottobine.*—Milton Irvine, Robert Black and A. J. Blakemore, Commissioners; and Jacob Shank, Officer.

#### DISTRICT NO. 5.

*Gordon's Store.*—Archibald Hopkins, Michael Whittner and Benj. D. Bowman, Commissioners; and P. T. Burkholder, Officer.  
*Bowman's Mill.*—DeWitt Coffman, John Burkholder and Michael Bowman, Commissioners; and Silas Henton, Officer.

#### DISTRICT NO. 6.

*Court-House.*—Robert Bowman, Franklin Pence and Wm. McK. Wartmann, Commissioners; and Henry T. Wartmann, Officer.

*Keseltown.*—Elijah Dudley, Geo. P. Burtner and Jonathan Peale, Commissioners; and Robert Cox, Officer.

#### DISTRICT NO. 7.

*Spartapolis.*—J. N. Cowan, Eli H. Koontz and W. W. Carpenter, Commissioners; and S. H. Carrier, Officer.

*Henton's Mill.*—Cyrus Rhodes, Andrew Henton and Michael Sellers, Commissioners; and Reuben W. Harrison, Officer.

#### DISTRICT NO. 8.

*Cootes' Store.*—Dr. W. T. Newham, Jacob Neff and Wm. Funk, Commissioners; and O. P. Horn, Officer.

*Timberville.*—George Branner, Wm. G. Thompson and David Hoover, Commissioners; and Frank Brenner, Officer.

*Trissell's School House.*—David Maupin, Timothy Funk and Jackson Horn, Commissioners; and John Rader, Officer.

#### DISTRICT NO. 9.

*Sprinkel's Store.*—Wm. Hevner, A. S. Rutherford and Geo. W. Fulk, Commissioners; and Samuel R. Sprinkel, Officer.

*Wittig's Store.*—Jacob Culphinger, James Dove and George May, Commissioners; and George Wittig, Officer.

#### ROBERT BOWMAN,

#### FRANKLIN PENCE,

#### WM. MCK. WARTMANN,

Oct 5—te Commissioners of Rockingham Co.



# EVENING TRANSCRIPT.

TUESDAY EVENING, NOV. 6, 1860.

SECOND EDITION.

EXTRA TRANSCRIPTS.

WE SHALL PUBLISH

EXTRA TRANSCRIPTS

WITH

THE LATEST ELECTION RETURNS,

TONIGHT.

**ELECTIONS TODAY.** Beside the Presidential election, there will take place today elections for various State Officers, and Members of Congress in Massachusetts, New York, Illinois, Michigan, Iowa and Minnesota. Wisconsin, New Jersey and Delaware elect Congressmen only. In these nine States seventy Members of Congress are to be chosen, and the result of this day's ballot will determine the political complexion of the next House of Representatives.

However the elections may terminate, the day will be a memorable one in the history of the country. No more important appeal to the people for their judgment on widely-varying principles and policies has been made since the formation of the government, than that which will be decided to-day. In view of the importance of the contest, and the passions it has excited, there has been more general good humor and good feeling than in many less important elections in previous years.

We refer the reader to another column for such items respecting the election as have been received. The latest intelligence from various points of interest will be published in extras from the Transcript office through the evening and night.



BY TELEGRAPH  
TO THE  
**BOSTON EVENING TRANSCRIPT.**

— • • • —  
**ELECTION REPORTS.**  
— • • • —

**Virginia.**

*Alexandria, Nov. 9.* In 106 counties in Virginia Bell gains over Goggin's vote 12,532, and Breckinridge gains over Letcher's vote 8310.

*Richmond, Nov. 9.* Returns from 13 counties in the South-western part of the State gives Breckinridge 2700 majority. The Democratic gain is 2500. The State is considered certain for Breckinridge.

*Richmond, 1 a., 9th.* Ten counties give Breckinridge a majority of 600. The counties not heard from gave Letcher 300 majority.

**Georgia.**

Official returns from 67 counties in Georgia give Breckinridge 30,000 votes, Bell 29,500, and Douglas 9000.

*Milledgeville, Ga., 9th.* Seventy-nine counties give Breckinridge 87,000, Bell 31,000, Douglas 10,000.

**Mississippi.**

Returns from Mississippi indicate Breckinridge gains.

**Louisiana.**

Breckinridge's plurality in Louisiana is 3000.



### WARD ONE.

Immediately after the opening of the polls in this Ward, the Ward Room was crowded with anxious voters. Good order, as far as was possible in such a motley assemblage, prevailed. Split tickets in variety abounded, which made a close scrutiny necessary to detect the irregularities. The press at the polls was unprecedeted, and the rush to vote did not allow the inspectors any respite from their labors.

### WARD THREE.

The Ward Room was packed with voters at the opening of the meeting. The clerk of the ward being absent, Mr. Leonard was chosen clerk pro tem. The scene is lively in and around the ward room. All parties are very active and the prospect is that a very large vote will be cast.

### WARD TEN.

When the first count was declared in this ward—145 for Rice to 104 for Bigelow—the ward room resounded with cheers, winding up with a “*ti-ger.*”

The following table shows the vote of the city at 2 o'clock, and the full vote two years ago:

### FOURTH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT.

	1860.	1858.
Rice, Bigelow.	557	234
Ward 7.....	258	525
“ 8.....	589	432
“ 9.....	562	455
“ 10.....	307	240
“ 11.....	1047	878
“ 12.....	476	413
Brookline.....	000	253
Roxbury.....	497	465
	1087	852
		253

### FIFTH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT.

	1860.	1858.
Burlingame. Appleton.	531	482
Ward 1.....	249	831
“ 2.....	950	742
“ 3.....	283	278
“ 4.....	569	565
“ 5.....	656	571
“ 6.....	789	767
Cambridge.....	934	763
Chester.....	0000	964
North Chelsea.....	0000	47
Winthrop.....	00	20
		67

### CHELSEA.

#### TWO O'CLOCK.

	Burlingame	Appleton.
Ward 1.....	225	176
“ 2.....	189	111
“ 3.....	192	103
“ 4.....	262	101
	855	491

### CAMBRIDGE.

#### VOTE AT 2 O'CLOCK.

	Burlingame.	Appleton.
Wards 1.....	224	185
“ 2.....	381	317
“ 3.....	178	151
“ 4.....	327	261
“ 5.....	65	123
	997	886

### ROXBURY.

#### TWELVE O'CLOCK.

	Rice.	Bigelow.
Ward 1.....	64	122
“ 2.....	86	86
“ 3.....	72	95
“ 4.....	119	74
“ 5.....	188	88
	523	465

### VOTE OF DORCHESTER.

#### 12 o'clock.

#### PRESIDENTIAL TICKET.

Lincoln.....	820
Bell.....	126
Douglas.....	72
Breckinridge.....	40
STATE TICKET.	
Andrew.....	272
Lawrence.....	113
Beach.....	68
Butler.....	89
Scattering.....	60

### VOTE OF HULL.

#### PRESIDENTIAL TICKET.

Lincoln and Hamlin.....	23
Bell and Everett.....	10
Douglas and Johnson.....	2
Breckinridge and Lane.....	none.

### GUBERNATORIAL TICKET.

J. A. Andrew.....	22
A. A. Lawrence.....	10
E. D. Beach.....	2
B. Butler.....	none.
FOR REPRESENTATIVE TO THE LEGISLATURE.	
Loring Bates, Republican.....	21
H. G. Reed, Scituate, Fusion.....	12
CONGRESSIONAL VOTE.	
James Buffinton, Republican.....	23
Aaron Hobart, Fusion.....	12

### VOTE OF LAWRENCE.

#### 1 o'clock.

#### PRESIDENTIAL TICKET.

Lincoln.....	476
Douglas.....	128
Bell.....	87
Breckinridge.....	42

Andrew falls a few votes behind Lincoln.

### HINGHAM.

Lincoln, 467; Bell, 206; Breckinridge, 31; Douglas, 45.
David Caw, Republican representative chosen.

### COHASSET.

Lincoln, 131; Bell, 65; Douglas, 48; Breckinridge, 16.
For Governor—Andrew, 128; Lawrence, 67; Beach, 48; Butler, 16. Representative to Congress—Buffinton, 132; Hobart, 129. For Representative General Court—Loring Bates, 130.

### SCITUATE.

Lincoln and Hamlin, 269; Bell and Everett, 82; Douglas and Johnson, 62; Breckinridge and Lane, 82. For Governor—Andrew, 270; Beach, 52; Lawrence, 52. Representative to Congress—Buffinton, 269; Hobart, 137. Representative to General Court—Bates, 219; Reed, 151.

### TAUNTON.

The first count stands at one o'clock—Lincoln 268; Bell 41; Douglas 66; Breckinridge 9. Congress—Bufliton 264; Hobart 111.

### NEWBURYPORT.

The following is the vote of this city up to half past twelve o'clock: Lincoln, 316; Douglas, 111; Breckinridge, 46; Bell, 56; Andrew, 337; Beach, 146; Butler, 47; Lawrence, 72. Storm prevented a larger vote this morning; not one-third have voted.

### SPECIAL DESPATCHES TO THE BOSTON TRANSCRIPT.

#### New Hampshire.

MANCHESTER, N. H., Nov. 6th.

The election is very quiet. The Democrats take but little interest, and their vote will be very small.

At noon, in five wards the vote stood—Lincol 629; Douglas 294; Breckinridge 10; Bell 8. The same wards gave for Governor, last spring, 1252 Republican, and 995 Democratic votes.

DOVER, N. H., 6th—1 P. M.

The votes come in slowly on account of the rain. The vote in the different wards at this time foots up for Lincoln 679; Douglas 216; Breckinridge 91; Bell 9.

PORTSMOUTH, N. H., 6th—Noon.

Ward 1—Lincoln 163, Douglas 35, Breckinridge 19, Bell 16.

Polls closed for dinner. No excitement, as no State, city or other officers, are chosen in New Hampshire to-day.

Ward 3—Lincoln 43, Douglas 50, Breckinridge 10, Bell none.

Ward Two not counted, but large majority for Lincoln.

#### Rhode Island.

#### REPUBLICAN VICTORY IN PROSPECT!

PROVIDENCE, Nov. 6—1 1/4 P. M.

The election is progressing in this city with but little excitement.

The prospect is that there will be a handsome Republican majority.

#### Connecticut.

#### LARGE REPUBLICAN MAJORITY!

HARTFORD, Nov. 6—1 P. M.

At this hour the Republican ticket was 690 ahead in this city.

Lincoln's majority in this State will be several thousands.

### New York.

NEW YORK, 6th, noon.

There are nearly as many votes polled in down town wards up to this hour, as during the whole day of last year. There has been no disturbances or arrests for illegal voting. Several arrests were made yesterday in Brooklyn for illegal registering. There is considerable excitement there today, but nothing serious.

### Pennsylvania.

PHILADELPHIA, 6th—Noon.

Everything is quiet, and there will evidently be a small vote. The Bell men are voting a straight ticket. Many Douglas men are not voting, being unable to get straight tickets. There is every probability of a large Republican plurality.



BY TELEGRAPH  
TO THE  
**BOSTON EVENING TRANSCRIPT.**

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THE ELECTION.

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**New Hampshire.**

*Concord, N. H., 9th.* The vote of this State, in all but thirteen small places, is as follows—Lincoln 37, 052; Douglas 25,267; Breckinridge 2072; Bell 393. Lincoln overall 9295.

**New York.**

MR. VAN WYCK, Republican, has been re-elected to Congress in the 10th district, by 11 majority, and Mr. Steele, Democrat, has been elected to Congress in the 11th district, by 200 majority.

[This district is now represented by Hon. Wm. S. Kenyon, Republican.]

Reuben E. Fenton, Republican, is re-elected to Congress from the Thirty-third District.

**Virginia.**

Latest returns from Virginia give Breckinridge upwards of 2000 majority. 70 Counties to hear from, which gave Letcher for Governor 300 majority.

**Georgia.**

*Washington, 9th.* Thirty-eight counties in Georgia give Bell 10,000, Breckinridge 17,000, and Douglas 6000. The indications are that Breckinridge has carried the State by a large plurality.

**Alabama.**

*Montgomery, Ala., 8th.* The plurality for Breckinridge in this State is 10,000.

**Florida.**

Returns from Florida indicate that Breckinridge has carried the State by 4000 majority.

**Illinois.**

*Chicago, 8th.* Washburn, Republican, has over 12,000 majority for Congress. Arnold's majority is 1400 for Congress.

A special despatch to the Tribune says that the Illinois Legislature will stand as follows: the Republicans will have one majority in the Senate, and seven in the House, with two doubtful.

**Wisconsin.**

*Milwaukee, 8th.* Lincoln's majority in the State is 20,000. Potter's majority for Congress is 2500.

**Mississippi.**

Returns from Mississippi indicate the success of the Breckinridge ticket.

**Missouri for Douglas.**

*St. Louis, 8th.* Additional returns confirm the election of the Douglas ticket.

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**The Reaction in Lincoln's own State.**

ROCK ISLAND MUNICIPAL ELECTION REPUBLICAN  
LOSS SINCE NOVEMBER '60!

ROCK ISLAND, March 6, 1861.

Our city election was held yesterday, and resulted in a glorious Democratic victory. We elected our Mayor, Bailey Davenport, Esq., by one hundred and ninety six majority, and our Marshal, F. J. Underwood, Esq., by one hundred and twenty-six majority. Last year the Republicans carried the city by two hundred and ten majority over Douglas. Last November Lincoln had four majority over Douglas. The Republican city convention reendorsed the Chicago platform, and declared against any compromise of our national difficulties. While the Democratic convention declared in favor of any fair compromise that would preserve the peace and save the Union. The result is a total defeat of the Republican party—they elect only one Alderman and one Supervisor in the whole city —*Chicago Times*.



# Lincoln's Election

## Electors Favorable to Him and His Cause Were Chosen in a Majority of the States Fifty-one Years Ago Today.

IT CANNOT be said that the early autumn elections of 1860 were especially favorable to Abraham Lincoln and the Republican ticket. It is true New Hampshire avowed allegiance to the new party of free soil and opposition to a slave oligarchy, but Hon. William Sprague, of whom the country was to hear much later on, defeated the regular nominees of the Republicans in Rhode Island. Connecticut divided almost evenly in a total poll of 80,000 votes. Well-informed men of that period conceded as intelligent readers of history believe that harmony at the Charleston Convention would have made the election of a Democratic President morally certain.

The first real bow of promise to the Republicans appeared in Maine, which elected a Republican Governor by a majority of 18,000. Vermont followed with an even larger Republican majority, and then in October Pennsylvania and Indiana, former Democratic strongholds, declared unmistakably for Lincoln by electing Republican Governors, Andrew G. Curtin, who became a Democrat after the war, and was elected to Congress on the Democratic ticket, being selected as Chief Magistrate of this Commonwealth.

But the Democrats of the North did not give up the struggle. They were especially strong in Boston, New York and Philadelphia, and wherever there was a centre of trade with Southern connections. There were already rumblings of a Southern revolt, and merchants who regarded their dollars more highly than the national honor, did everything in their power to prevent the election of the Illinois "rall-splitter." There was plenty of money for every purpose, and there were many torchlight processions and "grand rallys" of Douglas and for Breckinridge in the North. Neither of these men had a chance, but that was not known positively until after the election, when the American people awoke to the fact that a very huge minority (not a majority, for Lincoln was chosen by a minority), of the American people were aroused against the proposition to create new slave States.

Of the total vote cast fifty-one years ago today Lincoln had 1,857,610; Douglas, 1,291,574; Breckinridge, 850,082, and John Bell, 646,124. Douglas, although he polled more votes on election day than either Bell or Breckinridge, had fewer votes in the college than either, the figures being Lincoln, 108; Breckinridge, 72; Bell, 39, and Douglas, 12.

The South was more bitter against Douglas than against Lincoln in the struggle that closed on the 6th of No-

vember, 1860. Indeed there were many Southern fire-eaters who hoped to see Lincoln elected, as it would afford that excuse for a dissolution of the Union for which they were looking. When Senator Clingman, of North Carolina, deserted Douglas and announced that he would support Breckinridge, the Washington Star, which at that time reflected Southern opinion, said:

While we congratulate him upon the fact that his eyes are at length open to the dangerous tendency of the labors of Douglas, we half his conversion as an evidence of the truth of the oft-repeated declaration that ere the first Monday in November every honest and unselfish Democrat throughout the South will be found arrayed against Douglas Free Soilism, as being far more dangerous to the South than the election of Lincoln; because it seeks to create a Free Soil party there; while if Lincoln triumphs the result cannot fail to be a South united in her own defense—the only key to a full and, we sincerely believe, a peaceful and happy solution of the political problem of the slavery question.

This not only reflected the general Southern sentiment, but it echoed the general tone of the Southern press, which regarded the success of Douglas as the great peril to be defeated at all hazards.

The election of Douglas would have been followed by the exclusion of slavery from any State the moment a majority of its people saw fit to abolish the institution. That idea was the essence of popular or "squatter" sovereignty. And yet the people of the South would have had no rational excuse for secession, if a rational excuse can be imagined, and I presume under the Constitution, as then interpreted, it could be. He was not distinctly unfriendly to slavery and as he had said on a memorable occasion he did not care whether the new States voted it "up or down."

South Carolina would have seceded in 1856 if Fremont, a native of that State, had been elected. This is as certain as any mere speculative opinion can be, and perhaps she would then have carried the rest of the South with her. One month before the election at which Fremont was defeated a convention of Southern Governors was held at Raleigh, N. C., at the invitation of Governor Wise, of Virginia. Nobody knew of the session, which was held in secret, but later it was proclaimed by Governor Wise that he had determined, in the event of Fremont's election, to march to Washington at the head of 20,000 men and prevent the inauguration.

Two weeks before the Presidential election of 1860 prominent politicians of South Carolina met at the home of Senator Hammond. There were present a Governor and ex-Governor and the entire Congressional delegation with a single exception. Sentiment was sounded, and this Palmetto cabal resolved to secede from the Union in the event of Lincoln's election. Similar meetings were held at other points in the South.

The South Carolina Legislature met the day before the election of 1860. Its ostensible purpose was to choose Presidential electors, that being the South Carolina method of getting at the "will of the people." Governor Gist, in his message to the body, said, among other things:

Under ordinary circumstances your duty could be soon discharged by the selection of electors representing the choice of the people of the State; but in view of the threatening aspect of affairs, and the strong probability of the election to the Presidency of a sectional candidate, by a party committed to the support of measures that if carried out, will inevitably destroy our equality in the Union, and ultimately reduce the Southern States to mere provinces of a consolidated despotism, to be governed by a fixed majority in Congress hostile to our institutions and fatally bent upon our ruin, I would respectfully suggest that the Legislature remain in session, and take such action as will prepare the State for any emergency that may arise.

In this same message Governor Gist suggested and recommended a State convention—in the event of Mr. Lincoln's election,—"to consider and determine for themselves the mode and manner of resistance."

Surely even he did not believe the fathers of the Constitution contemplated that "redress" would ever be necessary, simply because a particular individual had been elected under the prescribed forms of law.

On the evening of the 5th, James Chestnut, Jr., United States Senator, was summoned, and being called upon to speak he declared that "before the setting of tomorrow's sun, in all human probability, the destiny of this confederated Republic will be decided." He solemnly thought in all human probability the Republican party would triumph. "In that event the lines of our enemies seem to be closing round us," he said. "But they must be broken. We see it all, know it all, feel all; and, with heaven's help, we will effect it all."

The people, Mr. Chestnut declared, must decide whether they would be governed by enemies or govern themselves. For himself he would unfurl the Palmetto flag, fixing it to the breeze, and, with the spirit of a brave man, determine to live and die as became our glorious ancestors, and sing the clarion notes of defiance in the ears of an insolent foe. He then spoke of the undoubted right to revoke delegated powers, and said it would be their duty, if Lincoln were elected, to withdraw them.

There seemed to be a unanimity of opinion that South Carolina must withdraw, but they all were not agreed as to the best method of procedure. Mr. Chestnut urged that the Palmetto State should act

independently, asserting that the other Southern States would flock to her standard. This was the view held by Congressman Boyce and by many others, but there was as a matter of fact an undercurrent in favor of delay. The more conservative, if there could be conservatives among radicals, thought it best to sound the other States and co-operate with them. The argument was met by Boyce, who said: "It is for South Carolina to be the quickest mover and by the most direct means to withdraw from the Union. Then we will not submit whether the other States will act with us or our enemies. They cannot take sides with our enemies; they must take sides with us. When an ancient philosopher wished to inaugurate a revolution, his motto was to dare! to dare!"

And this was the situation at Charleston before the returns were in. Is there any wonder that the State hastened to her ruin when the tidings of Lincoln's election arrived thirty-six hours later?

F. J. P.

Nov 6 1911



# LINCOLN LORE

No. 30

FORT WAYNE, INDIANA

November 4, 1929.

## Lincoln Lore

Bulletin of the  
LINCOLN HISTORICAL RESEARCH  
FOUNDATION

Dr. Louis A. Warren - Editor

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## STRAY BALLOTS—1860

### ABRA(HAMLIN)COLN

Vote of the city of Louisville: Bell 3,823; Douglas 2,633; Breckenridge 845; Lincoln 91.

In as many as ten states in the union Lincoln is said not to have received a single popular vote.

Official vote for the state of Kentucky: Bell 65,740; Breckenridge 53,146; Douglas 25,314; Lincoln 1,364.

Fayette county, the home of Mary Todd Lincoln, cast its vote as follows: Bell 1,411; Breckenridge 1,051; Douglas 99; Lincoln 5.

Two of the four candidates in the 1860 campaign were born in Kentucky; yet the state gave its electoral vote to one of the other candidates.

Hardin county was the first home of Lincoln's parents, and here many of Abraham's relatives still lived. Out of a total of 2,091 votes Lincoln received six.

They say that Old Abe is raising a pair of whiskers. Some individual of the cockney persuasion remarked that he was "a puttin on (h)airs." Evansville Journal.

The announcement that Lincoln had received a majority of votes in the precinct where he lived seemed to give him more satisfaction than any other election return.

When Abraham Lincoln was running for president, his son at Harvard pasted one of his father's pictures on a letter and it reached him without missing a mail. Rockport Journal.

The vote in this city (Lexington, Kentucky) is the largest by several hundred ever polled; Bell, 648; Breckenridge, 635; Douglas, 75; Lincoln, 1. Lexington Observer and Reporter.

Mr. Lincoln's election is a fact accomplished. We have prayed fervently against this event, and we have worked against it with every energy of our nature. Editorial. Louisville Daily Record.

There is now a Republican electoral ticket in Missouri so that you can vote for me if your neighbors will let you. I would advise you not to get into any trouble about it. Letter, Lincoln to Nathaniel Grigsby.

In LaRue county, where Abraham Lincoln was born, only three persons voted for Abraham Lincoln for president of the United States. The vote was: Douglas 450; Bell 401; Breckenridge 32; Lincoln 3.

Governor Morehead knew Lincoln and had served in Congress with him. He was violently opposed to slavery, but he hoped that when invested with power he would be conservative. He was an honest man. Louisville Daily Journal.

While in the Springfield Post Office Lincoln was asked how he was going to vote on the following day: "For Yates for Governor," he replied. But for President? "How vote?" Lincoln asked,—"By ballot," he answered. New York Tribune.

There was but one vote cast for Abraham Lincoln out of a total of 1,566 in Washington county. Here Lincoln's father lived for sixteen years with his mother, two brothers and two sisters, and here all the Lincoln children married.

The ages of candidates for president of the United States at the time of election in 1860 were as follows: Bell, 63; Lincoln, 51; Douglas, 47; and Breckenridge, 39. A difference of 24 years is apparent between the oldest and youngest candidates.

The popular vote for president in 1860 was as follows: Lincoln 1,866,452; Douglas 1,375,157; Breckenridge 847,953; Bell 570,631. Lincoln's vote was the largest popular vote which had ever been cast, up to that time, for a president of the United States.

The vote for Carter township (Spencer county, Indiana), Lincoln's old home, must prove gratifying to that gentleman. The vote is: Lincoln, 16; Douglas, 70; Breckenridge, 2; Bell, 2. Complete vote for Spencer county: Lincoln, 1926; Douglas, 1108; Breckenridge, 172; Bell, 175. Evansville Journal.

Mrs. Lincoln, the future mistress of the White House, is on the advantageous side of forty, is slightly above the medium stature, with brown eyes, clearly cut features, delicate, mobile,

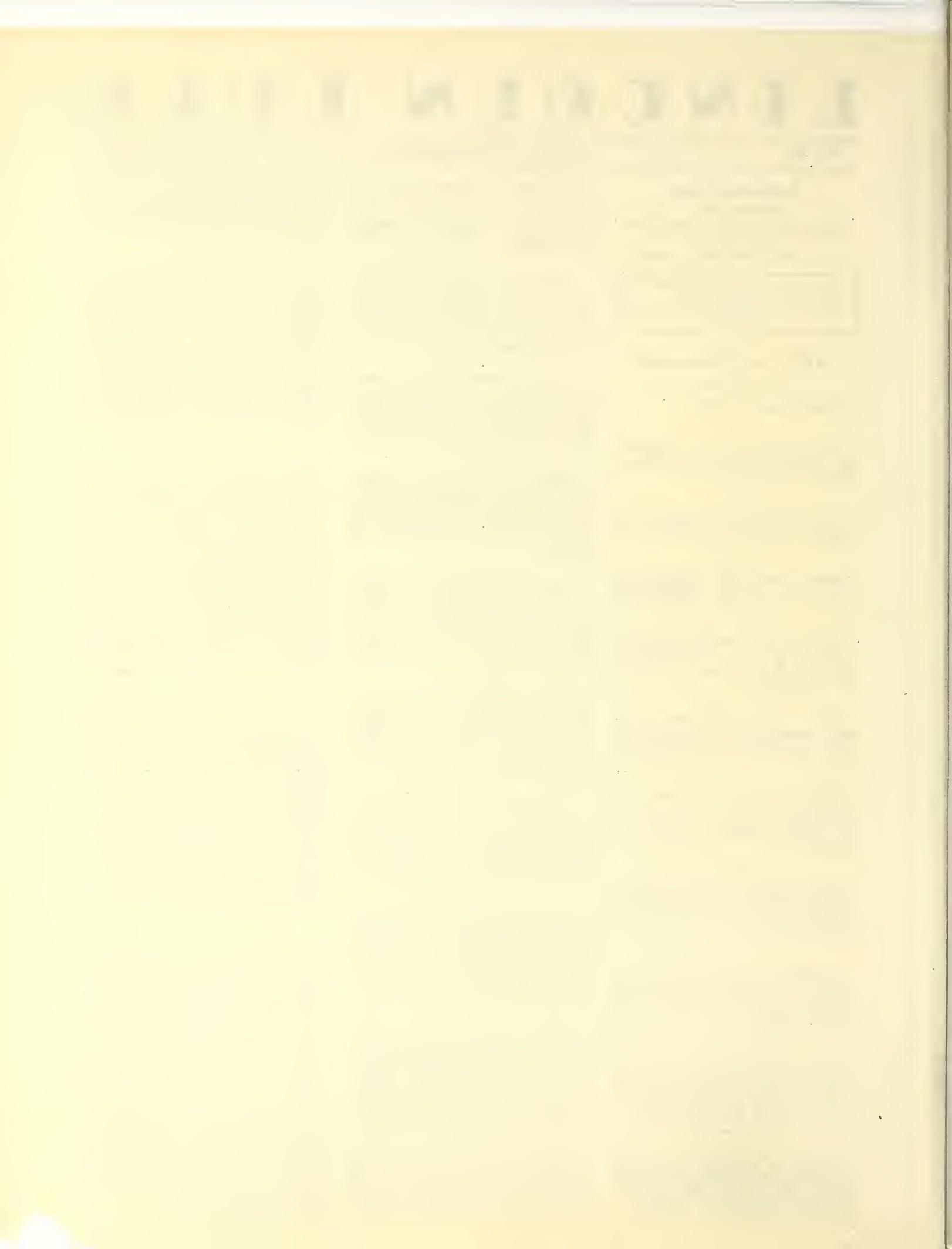
expressive, rather distinguished in appearance than beautiful, conveying to the mind generally an impression of self-possession, stateliness and elegance. New York World.

Quincy (Illinois)—Tuesday, Nov. 6, 1860.. Frost & ice this morning. Bright day and pleasant, but somewhat cool. At work in office. Election day. Everything going quietly. Wednesday, Nov. 7, 1860. We were beaten in this city & county yesterday, but the pain of our defeat was greatly mitigated by the news of this evening, giving assurance that we had carried the state and that Lincoln was elected. Browning Diary, Pease and Randall.

Many contend that Lincoln's name should be pronounced according to the literal orthography, LINCOLLEN. All the best authorities, however, agree in pronouncing it as they do out west LINKEN. Below we give three authorities on the subject: LINK-ON, Lippincot's Gazetteer, LIN-K-U-N Webster's unabridged; LING-KUN, Worcester's New Dictionary. In Illinois, where everybody claims the privilege of familiarity with "Old Abe", they have somewhat improved on the above and speak of the distinguished "Sucker" as "Old Abe LICK-EM". Dollar Weekly Courier, Madison, Ind.

The electoral votes received by the four candidates were as follows: Lincoln—California, Connecticut, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, New Hampshire, New Jersey (4), New York, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, and Wisconsin, a total of 180. Breckenridge—Alabama, Arkansas, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Texas, a total of 72. Bell—Kentucky, Tennessee, and Virginia, a total of 37. Douglas—Missouri, and New Jersey (3) a total of 12.

Mr. Lincoln went to his office as early as eight o'clock on the morning of the election, opened his mail, and attended to routine business. It is said he had not intended to vote, but at three o'clock he appeared at the polls and after nullifying that part of the ballot relating to his own candidacy, voted for the rest of the ticket. Mr. Lincoln returned to his room at the state house after supper. When the returns began to come in, he went to the telegraph office and remained there the rest of the evening. A delegation of Springfield women served a luncheon for those who were interested in receiving the returns and Lincoln is said to have attended and was cheered wildly when reports which favored his election began to come in.



Apr. 8-14 33

## IMPORTANT EPOCHS IN LINCOLN'S LIFE

*Compiled by HERBERT WELLS FAY, Custodian Lincoln Tomb*

The question is often asked "Did Lincoln from the first get his greatest encouragement from his home community?"

World travelers report that the name of Lincoln is generally mentioned in the lists of the first twenty and often in the first ten most familiar men of the world. This is a marvelous distinction and reflects greatly to the honor of Springfield, yet the record shows that he did not carry his home county in either presidential election.

Douglas in 1860 carried Sangamon County by 42 votes over Lincoln, and in 1864 Lincoln lost to McClellan by 380 votes. There were at that time hundreds of local men who thought they were equal if not superior to Lincoln. Had Herndon, one of his most ardent friends and backers had a vision that 16,000 books and pamphlets would ultimately be written covering the most minute incident of his life, he could have become a prairie Beowulf and recorded in a moment's time, the things that now require months and even years of research. He could have settled thousands of controversies.

The figures of the Sangamon County returns are as follows:

### FOR PRESIDENT, 1860

Stephen A. Douglas, Democrat.....	3598
Abraham Lincoln, Republican.....	3556
John Bell, Union .....	130
John C. Breckinridge, Democrat..	77

Douglas' plurality 42.

### FOR PRESIDENT, 1864

George B. McClellan, Democrat....	3945
Abraham Lincoln, Republican.....	3565
McClellan's plurality	380.
Lincoln's vote 1864 over 1860, 9.	

### FOR GOVERNOR ILLINOIS, 1860

Richard Yates, Republican.....	3609
J. C. Allen, Democrat.....	3601
Scattering .....	131
Yates' plurality, 8.	

### FOR GOVERNOR ILLINOIS, 1864

Richard J. Oglesby, Republican....	3578
James C. Robinson, Democrat.....	3941
Robinson's plurality, 363.	
Yates, Republican over Lincoln	
1860, 43.	
Oglesby, Republican over Lin-	
coln 1864, 13.	



# LINCOLN LORE

Bulletin of the Lincoln National Life Foundation - - - - - Dr. Louis A. Warren, Editor.  
Published each week by The Lincoln National Life Insurance Company, of Fort Wayne, Indiana.

No. 292

FORT WAYNE, INDIANA

November 12, 1934

## ELECTION BULLETINS IN THE SIXTIES

With each approaching election there is always a keen interest shown in how a candidate runs in his local precinct, his own county, or his home city. Abraham Lincoln's remarkable race the first time he ran for public office, in which he received all but three of the 281 votes cast in his precinct, should not be considered as a typical result of all of his subsequent political efforts.

There is an old familiar biblical proverb—"A prophet is not without honor save in his own country and among his own kin." This fact seems to be true of politicians also, and especially true of those who ran for the presidency in 1860.

In this memorable campaign two of the four candidates, Lincoln and Breckinridge, were born in Kentucky, yet that state gave her electoral vote to another. Douglas, a Vermonter, was also denied the support of his native state. Bell of Tennessee was the only one of four presidential candidates who was successful in carrying his own state.

### Kentucky

Early in the 1860 campaign Abraham Lincoln was conscious of the opposition in Kentucky to his candidacy. He was invited by a citizen of the county where his father and mother first went to keeping house to visit the place of his birth. He replied, "You suggest that a visit to the place of my nativity might be pleasant to me. Indeed it would." He then continued jokingly, "But would it be safe? Would not the people lynch me?"

It is quite likely that in the press of official business after the election he did not go to the trouble to learn how the voters did "lynch" him, figuratively speaking, in the very communities where his people and his wife's people lived and in the county where he was born.

In Washington County, Kentucky, both Lincoln's father and mother grew to maturity and were married. Here, for many years, several uncles and aunts of Abraham Lincoln also lived. Nevertheless, he received but one vote out of 1,566 cast in the county.

Hardin County, Kentucky, was the first home of Lincoln's parents after their marriage, and many of Lincoln's own relatives were living there in 1860. Out of a total of 2,091 votes cast, Lincoln received six.

Mary Todd, wife of Abraham Lincoln, was born in Lexington, Kentucky, and a large number of her relatives were living there in 1860. Only one vote, however, was registered for Lincoln from that district.

In Larue County, Kentucky, where Abraham Lincoln was born, only three votes were cast for the "favorite son" candidate, while Douglas, born in New England, polled more votes than the total received by all three of the southern-born candidates.

Although Lincoln fared somewhat better in his native state in the election of 1860, he must have been chagrined when he learned that Kentucky was one of but three states which gave their electoral votes to McClellan.

### Indiana

In 1844 Lincoln went back to Indiana campaigning for Henry Clay and visited Spencer County, the community where he lived for fourteen years and where he first became eligible to vote. The home folks used him much better than those of his native state, and possibly his influence had something to do with Clay receiving a good majority in the county.

When the election of 1860 came around, although some vicious stories, later proven to be untrue, were circulated about Lincoln, he managed to carry Spencer County by 141 votes over his nearest competitor and his early home township by 145 to 96 over Douglas.

Lincoln always seemed to have more confidence in the political support of Indiana than in either of the other commonwealths in which he had lived. She stood loyally behind him in 1860. He wrote to General Sherman in 1864 with reference to the contest:

"Indiana is the only important state voting in October, whose soldiers cannot vote in the field. Anything you can safely do to let her soldiers, or any part of them, go home and vote at the state election will be greatly in point. They need not remain for the presidential election but may return to you at once." The results of the 1864 campaign substantiated Lincoln's confidence in the Hoosier state.

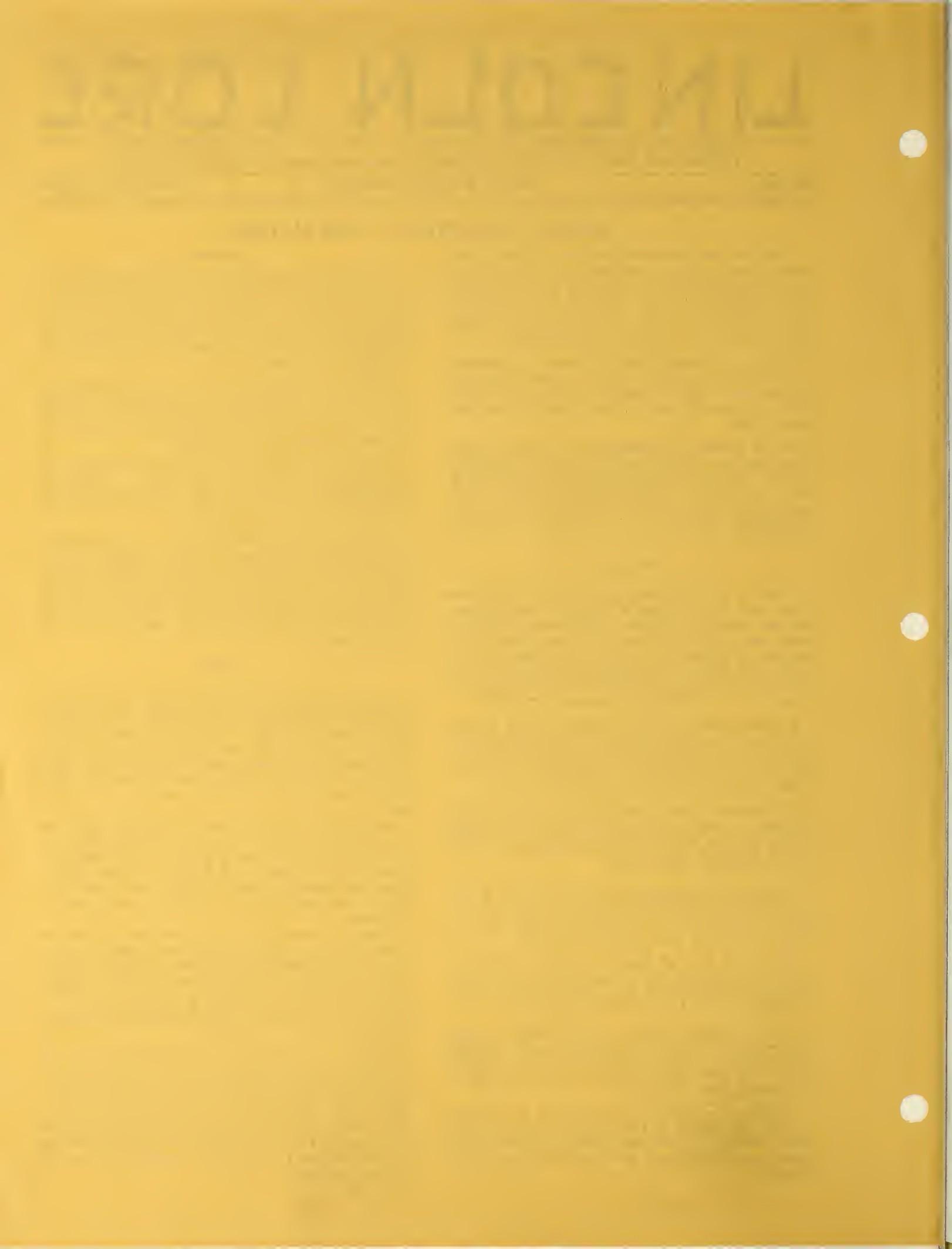
### Illinois

An interesting but little-known memorandum was written by Lincoln on October 13, 1864. It was a compilation of the states and their electoral votes placed in two columns. Evidently one column, including the New England states and the western states with one exception, listed those whose support he felt confident would be given to him. The other column contained the names of the states which he felt would cast their votes against him.

The total at which he arrived by this compilation was 120 electoral votes for him and 114 for McClellan. In the column of those whose support he felt he would not receive were Kentucky and Illinois. As already indicated, his prophecy about Kentucky was correct but Illinois surprised him by voting for him instead of McClellan.

Possibly Lincoln had based his calculation about the Illinois vote on reports from his home county of Sangamon, which actually gave McClellan a plurality of 380 votes over Lincoln. Back in the election of 1860, Douglas had beaten Lincoln in Sangamon County by forty-two votes, and, in both the 1860 and 1864 elections, the candidates for governor on the Republican tickets ran ahead of Lincoln.

We are told, by those who were with Lincoln at the time the 1860 election returns were being received, that the favorable announcement of the vote of his own precinct in Springfield gave him more pleasure than any other election report. At the early beginning of his political career and at the climax of his achievements he was honored in his own city and among his own people by complimentary votes which contradicted the old familiar proverb.



CLINT CLAY TILTON  
DANVILLE, ILLINOIS

September 6, 1937.

Dear Mr. McMurtry:--

I note in your recent booklet that Lincoln received but one vote for president in Elizabethtown in 1860. I wonder if it is possible for you to furnish me with the results in that election in both Hardin and Larue counties. I suppose Douglas ran a poor third or fourth there.

I have written to Spencer county, Indiana, to get the result there.

In 1860 the vote in Illinois was between Lincoln and Douglas, as follows:

Macon county, where he first settled: Lincoln, 1501; Douglas, 1541. Douglas majority, 40.

Menard county, (New Salem), Lincoln, 962; Douglas, 1035. Douglas majority, 73.

Sangamon county, Lincoln's last home, Lincoln, 3356; Douglas, 3598. Douglas majority, 42.

Coles county, where his father lived: Lincoln, 1405; Douglas, 1467. Douglas majority, 62.

These figures of the countias where the Lincolns were best known would bear out the adage, "A prophet is not without honor except in his home country."

Take our county, Vermilion, for instance. Here he was known only because of his circuit riding visits, yet the result was: Lincoln, 2251; Douglas, 1577. Lincoln's majority, 674. In the state Yates for governor led by a few votes.

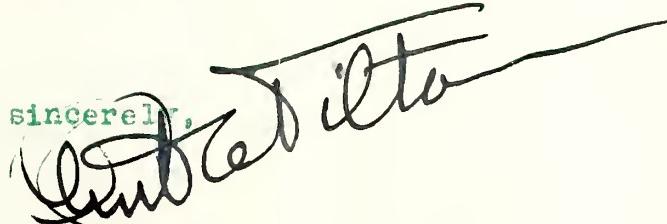
In Douglas' home county of Cook, Lincoln was a victor by a big majority.

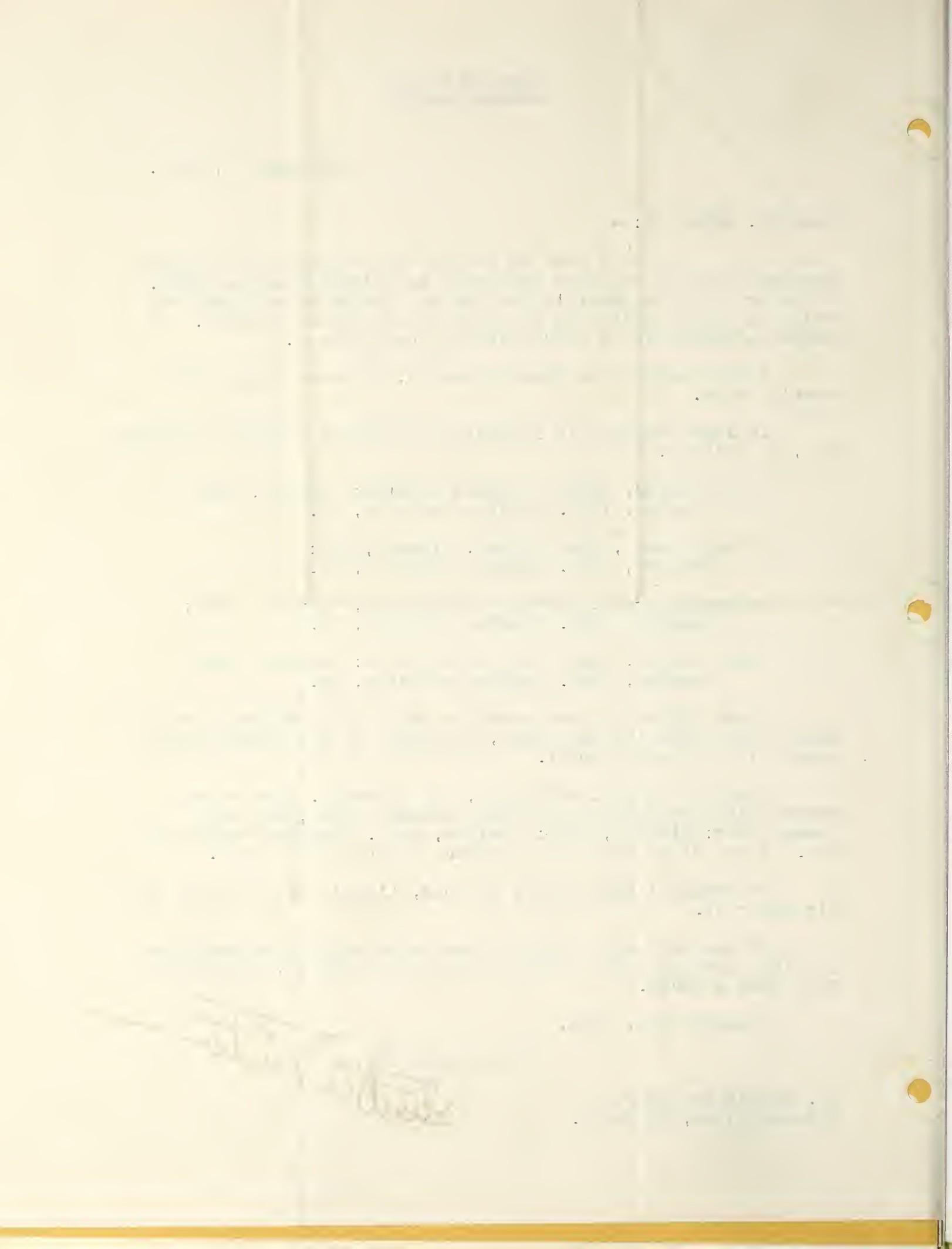
If the Kentucky votes are available may I have them? Am getting together a bit of data for a new pamphlet, "When Lincoln Rode a Horse."

Thanking you, I am,

Yours sincerely,

Mr. Gerald McMurtry,  
Elizabethtown, Kentucky.





# '60 LEDGER YIELDS NEW LINCOLN LORE

New York Times  
February 12, 1959

## Newspaper Clipping Tells, Indignantly, That He Cast Ballot for Himself

By BESS FURMAN

Special to The New York Times.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 11—A loose newspaper clipping in a ledger almost a century old reports that Abraham Lincoln voted for himself in the 1860 election.

This ledger, with stiff, mottled covers and alphabet tabs, apparently was the state-by-state list of non-voting, top-echelon Democrats used at the Stephen A. Douglas campaign headquarters. Douglas and John C. Breckinridge, both Democrats, also ran for the Presidency in 1860.

For almost two decades it has lain in the safe of Charles Kohen, Washington dealer in curios and historical documents, who bought it from an estate. Mr. Kohen made it public today as his contribution to the Lincoln Sesquicentennial.

### Campaign Clippings

Under the name of each state the names of leading Douglas Democrats are written in the same hand. State-by-state, too, are newspaper clippings on the campaign, from the Baltimore convention, where the Breckinridge forces broke away, through election analyses.

Most of the newspaper clippings are pasted to the pages. But like many scrapbooks, the work on the old ledger was never completed. Some of the choicest items lie loose in its center, many of them with no clue where they were published.

The clippings reported the following:

¶"Lincoln voted for himself—for his own Electors—at Springfield, Ill. All the Republican papers, instead of being ashamed to mention the fact, publish it as something worthy of great commendation in 'Old Abe.' Douglas was in Alabama on the day of the Presidential Election. Lincoln should have been complimentary enough to his competitor to have paired off with him."

¶"Abraham Lincoln was chosen President "not so much because of the strength of his friends as from the division and wrangling among his opponents."

¶"In ten states of the Union Lincoln did not receive a single vote. In five other states polling several hundred thousand votes, he scarcely received a corporal's guard of support. The Republican Party is not a United States Party. It has no existence and is regarded as a public enemy of all the people in almost half the states."



Ohio  
1960**THIS WAS THE CIVIL WAR****Lincoln Is Elected President**

By MERTON T. AKERS  
United Press International

Election news filtered into Springfield, Ill., slowly on the night of Nov. 6, 1860.

In the early evening, Abraham Lincoln, the Republican presidential candidate reading the telegraphic dispatches with political friends, first learned he had lost his own county, Sangamon. Other early news was better — he had won his home district.

Around midnight the party broke up on a jubilant note with receipt of this telegram:

"Hon. A. Lincoln: Pennsylvania 70,000 for you. New York safe. Glory enough. S. Cameron."

Lincoln then walked through celebrating party workers in the streets to his white clapboard house on Eighth St., and told a beaming Mary Todd Lincoln:

"Mary, we're elected."

That night, 100 years ago this week, the American Civil War became inevitable. But no one, not even Lincoln, was conscious of this.

The "S. Cameron" who signed the telegram was Simon Cameron of Pennsylvania, an ex-Democrat, now a Republican, who would be Lincoln's first secretary of war until quietly removed and sent to Russia as U.S. ambassador.

**Campaign Was Bitter**

The presidential campaign ending that November night was the bitterest in memory. Four candidates made the race. The Democratic party, which had held the presidency except for a few intervals since Thomas Jefferson, split two ways. The wedge which shattered the party was the extension of slavery.

U.S. Sen. Stephen A. Douglas, the "Little Giant" of Illinois, led the moderate Democrats.

Nominated in Baltimore June 23 by the northern wing of the party, Douglas undertook to re-weld the Democrats and stave off strife by running on the platform of Popular Sovereignty, which would leave any extension of slavery to voters in the territories which were clamoring to join the Union. Popular Sovereignty had been bled in Kansas in the middle '50s.

Five days later in Baltimore the southern wing of the party — the fire eaters who sensed the South was losing its grip on the government — nominated Vice President John C. Breckinridge of Kentucky. His platform in essence was that slavery was legal anywhere in the nation.

Earlier — on May 9, also in Baltimore — the Constitutional Union party, a hodgepodge of splinter groups, nominated John Bell of Tennessee, a former Whig, on a platform that evaded the slavery issue. Bell's running mate was Edward Everett, the eloquent orator who would precede Lincoln at Gettysburg three years after the election.

**Douglas Senses Crisis**

Lincoln was nominated by the new Republican party on May 18 in Chicago. He went into the convention running second to

William H. Seward, a former governor of New York and a favorite of the party which was entering only its second presidential campaign. Astute Lincoln floor managers, who bargained right and left, won his nomination on the third ballot.

Douglas sensed the crisis and went to work early. Until 1860 no presidential candidate ever had stumped the country, following the precedent set by George Washington. But by July Douglas was on the hustings on the pretense that he was going to visit his mother in New York State.

Breckinridge and Bell followed Douglas to the stump. Lincoln never stirred from Springfield. He issued no statements. Questioners were referred to his previous utterances.

Douglas stumped New England, the East coast into the Carolinas, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana — at least a speech a day, sometimes more. But it was in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, in early October that he faced the political realities. There he learned the Republicans had elected a governor in Pennsylvania. A little later came word from Indiana that the Republicans were victorious there too. The Pennsylvania victory was impressive, a majority of 32,000. That day Douglas told his secretary:

"Mr. Lincoln is the next president. We must try to save the Union. I will go South."

He did, by way of St. Louis, Memphis, and on into the Deep South where the newspapers breathed editorial fire and the crowds were hostile but willing to listen.

Election night found the Little Giant in Mobile, Ala. He sat with an editor reading election dispatches. By midnight he, too, knew the result.

As George Fort Milton put it in *The Eve of Conflict*, "that night secession was born."

When all the returns were in the result read like this:

	Electoral States	Popular Vote	Vote
Lincoln .....	17	180	1,866,332
Breckinridge ...	11	72	845,763
Douglas .....	3	12	1,375,157
Bell .....	3	39	589,581x

Lincoln had won a clear majority of the electoral vote, the figure which elects, but in popular vote he would be a minority president by nearly a million. Republican victories in many states were by slim margins. Lincoln's own state, Illinois, gave him a margin of only 12,000 over Douglas, California only a few more than 500. Bell carried Tennessee, his home state; Kentucky, Breckinridge's home state, and Virginia. Douglas carried Missouri and New Jersey, Breckinridge carried the South, Lincoln the rest.

Politically, Lincoln faced a divided country. The Republicans carried neither the Senate nor the House. But what Lincoln could not know then was that by the time the Congress elected with him met on July 4, 1861 in

special session, enough states, all Democratic, would have seceded and that the Republicans would control both houses.

No president, before or since, faced anything similar.

South Carolina was readying the action which would lead into civil war five months hence.

The day before election, William H. Gist, South Carolina governor, recommended leaving the Union. Before the week was out a committee of the South Carolina legislature had recommended a bill for a convention to consider secession; the state's two U.S. senators had resigned, a federal grand jury had refused to act, a federal district judge had closed his court and quit.

The secession parade was gathering in the side streets. It would start marching in little more than a month.

x Election figures from "Battles and Leaders of the Civil War." Popular vote figures from other sources show only minor differences without affecting the electoral count.

Our Morning Mail:

Journal Herald  
Dayton - Feb 11, 1967

# How Lincoln Got Elected

Editor:

Abraham Lincoln, 16th President of the United States, was elected by a minority vote of the American people, not by a majority.

In 1860, on the eve of the Civil War, the Democrats due to a bitter party feud over slavery, states and secession rights, were split asunder, with three different conventions nominating the same number of men for President: Stephen Douglas of Illinois; John Bell of Tennessee and John C. Breckinridge of Kentucky. Lincoln was the Republican nominee.

In the November, 1860, election, the records disclose, Douglas received 1,376,957 votes; Breckinridge 849,781; Bell 588,879; Lincoln 1,866,542. Lincoln failed to get a single vote in all the Southern states, and in his native Kentucky tallied only 1,361 votes to 25,651 for Douglas and 66,058 for Bell.

The figures show Lincoln had a majority of 489,585 votes over Douglas, the strongest Democrat candidate. On the other hand, it can be readily de-

Letters to the editor are welcomed. Only letters with signatures and addresses will be considered. Please keep them under 200 words. We reserve the right to cut letters.

ducted that the vote cast for all three Democrat candidates far outnumbered Lincoln's total. And had either Bell or Breckinridge not been candidates, Stephen Douglas not Abraham Lincoln would have been President of the United States.

Hence it was the Democrats, not the Republicans, who put Lincoln in the White House and made the secession of the Southern states certain and the Great Rebellion a positive reality.

ANDREW BOLD  
Springfield, O.



## *Brooklyn News* All the Presidents' votes 1/2/89



Brooklyn: A recent letter about presidential elections lost by a candidate with a majority of the popular vote called attention to the fact that in the 51 presidential elections from George Bush to George Washington, no fewer than 15 were won by a candidate with less than 50% of the popular vote. This is because more than two candidates were running and the popular vote was split three or more ways. It is sobering to remember that during the Civil War, our survival as one country rested with a President who had come into office as the choice of less than 40% of the voters. That was Abraham Lincoln, undoubtedly our greatest President, who had run in a four-man field in 1860, on the eve of the war. Incidentally, Voicer Marie Lamicella was in error in listing the Presidents who had won against a majority opponent at the polls. John Quincy Adams had many fewer votes than Andrew Jackson in 1824, but no one in a multiplicity of candidates achieved a majority at the polls or in the Electoral College. Jackson, who led in popular and electoral votes, but without a majority, was passed over by the House of Representatives in favor of Adams. *Emanuel Finkel*.



# Now--

Votes That Sadden.  
Lincoln Knew Sorrow.  
Kentucky Against Him.  
He Spoke For Clay.  
Spencer County Was True.

BY THE EDITOR.

Those candidates for public office who do not receive a vote as large as they think they should have in their own precincts or their own townships or their own counties should not feel badly about it for many great men, whose names live on for many years after they have left the scene of life's action, had similar experiences.

No person in public life had greater disappointments in life than did Abraham Lincoln, yet, almost 70 years after his death, no individual American is held in greater esteem than he.

Lincoln drank deeply from the cup of life's bitterness. The lines in his face, as shown by all his photographs depict a life of sorrow. When you are disposed to become discouraged with your lot in life, read again the many sorrows and disappointments of Abraham Lincoln. After you have done this you will have a more cheerful outlook upon life unless your disappointment is more deep-seated than that of the average mortal.

\* \* \*

Lincoln's father and mother grew to maturity and were united in marriage in Washington county, Kentucky. There, for many years, several uncles and aunts of Abraham Lincoln also lived.

Yet, when Lincoln was running for President in 1860, he received but one vote out of 1,566 cast in the county. That was a rebuke from the home of one's parents that would justify disappointment, wasn't it?

Hardin county, Kentucky, was the first home of Lincoln's parents after their marriage, and many of Lincoln's own relatives were living there in 1860. Out of a total of 2,091 votes cast, Lincoln received but six.

Mary Todd, wife of Abraham Lincoln, was born in Lexington, Kentucky, and a large number of her relatives were living there in 1860 when her husband was a candidate for the highest office in the gift of the people of his country. Only one vote, however, was registered for Lincoln from the city of Lexington.

In LaRue county, Kentucky, where Abraham Lincoln was born, only three votes were cast for the "favorite son" candidate in 1860 while Douglas, born in New England polled more votes than the total received by all three of the southern-born candidates.

Lincoln fared a little better in his native state, Kentucky, in the election of 1864, but he must have been deeply disappointed when he learned that Kentucky was one of but three states which gave their electoral votes to George B. McClellan his opponent.

But there is a brighter side to the picture than those figures we have been giving. The first time Lincoln ran for public office in Illinois, he received all but three of the 281 votes cast in his own precinct. That was one of the bright spots in Lincoln's life.

The voters of that precinct knew the real Abraham Lincoln. The voters of Kentucky in the year 1860 did not know him and the fact that he was born in the Bluegrass State had no claims upon their loyalty for many of them did not agree with his views on human slavery, so often and so forcefully expressed.

\* \* \*

Lincoln was known in Spencer county, Indiana, for he was a young man when he left that county with his parents to make the journey to Illinois to seek a new home on the more fertile lands of that adjoining state.

So in the year 1844, when he came back to Spencer county to campaign for Henry Clay, he met many old friends. In fact he knew most of those whom he addressed in Clay's behalf. So after the votes had been counted in that election of 1844, it was found that Clay had achieved what was regarded as the impossible. He had carried Spencer county by a good majority.

There is not much doubt but that Lincoln's addresses in Clay's behalf among the people with whom he had lived for fourteen years, the people whom he knew well and who knew him well, had a great deal to do with that favorable result.

\* \* \*

It was shown in 1844 that Lincoln was effective in his campaigning for others among the people he knew but it was not known how those people would rally to his cause when he himself was a candidate.

When the election of 1860 rolled around, although some vicious stories later proven to be untrue, were circulated about him in his own boyhood county, he managed to carry Spencer county by 141 votes over his nearest competitor and his early home township by 145 to 96 over Douglas.

Lincoln always had more confidence in the political support of Indiana than in either Kentucky or Illinois. He had lived in all three states. It is said that he always had faith in the people of Indiana and felt confident of their support. He was never certain of Kentucky or Illinois.

\* \* \*

Dr. Louis A. Warren of Fort Wayne a noted Lincoln scholar, tells of an interesting but little known memorandum written by Lincoln on

October 13, 1864. It was a compilation of the states and their electoral votes placed in two columns. Evidently one column, including the New England states and the western states with one exception, listed those whose support he felt confident would be given to him. The other column contained the names of states which he felt would cast their votes against him.

The total at which he arrived by this compilation was 120 electoral votes for himself and 114 for McClellan. In the column of those whose support he felt he would not receive were Kentucky and Illinois.

As already indicated, his prophecy about Kentucky was correct but Illinois surprised him by voting for him instead of McClellan. Possibly Lincoln had based his calculation about the Illinois vote on reports from his home county of Sangamon which actually gave McClellan a plurality of 380 votes over Lincoln.

\* \* \*

Back in the election of 1860 Douglas had beaten Lincoln in Sangamon county by 42 votes, and, in both the 1860 and 1864 elections, the candidates for governor on the Republican tickets ran ahead of Lincoln.

Those who were with Lincoln at the time the 1860 election returns were being received, state that the announcement of the favorable vote of his own precinct in Springfield gave him more pleasure than any other election report. Lincoln loved the people whom he knew and he wanted them to love him. The people of his home precinct in 1860 demonstrated that they had faith in the tall neighbor who had lived among them for many years.

There is a familiar proverb: "A prophet is not without honor save in his own country." At the beginning of his political career and at the climax of his achievements. Lincoln was honored in his own city and among his own people by complimentary votes which contradicted the old familiar proverb.



### Sangamon County Presidential Figures

The vote of Sangamon county for president in early years was as follows:

1832—	
Andrew Jackson, Dem.....	1035
Henry Clay, Whig.....	810
1836—	
Wm. H. Harrison, Whig.....	1463
Martin Van Buren, Dem.....	903
1840—	
Wm. H. Harrison, Whig.....	2000
Martin Van Buren, Dem.....	1249
1844—	
Henry Clay, Whig.....	1837
James K. Polk, Dem.....	1371
1848—	
Zachary Taylor, Whig.....	1943
Lewis Cass, Dem. ....	1336
Van Buren, Free Soil.....	47
1852—	
Winfield Scott, Whig.....	2125
Franklin Pierce, Dem.....	1606
John P. Hale, Free Soil.....	21
1856—	
James Buchanan, Dem.....	2475
1860—	
Willard Fillmore, American.....	1612
John C. Fremont, Rep.....	1174
1864—	
Stephen A. Douglas, Dem.....	3598
Abraham Lincoln, Rep. ....	3556
John Bell, Union.....	130
John C. Breckenridge, Dem.....	77
1868—	
Horatio Seymour, Dem.....	4875
U. S. Grant, Rep.....	4411
1872—	
Horace Greeley, Liberal .....	4483
U. S. Grant, Rep.....	4149
Charles O'Connor, Dem. ....	69
1876—	
Samuel J. Tilden, Dem.....	5841
R. B. Hayes, Rep.....	4847
1880—	
W. S. Hancock, Dem.....	6196
James A. Garfield, Rep.....	5476
James B. Weaver, Greenback.....	238

The table is interesting as it gives the names of the defeated candidates in each campaign.





# ON THE SIDE WITH E. V. DURLING

*Give us a man of God's own  
mould.*

*Born to marshal his fellow-  
men*

*One whose fame is not bought  
and sold*

*At the stroke of a politician's  
pen.*

—Edmund Clarence Stedman,

(That is to say, give us a man  
such as Abraham Lincoln.—  
E.V.D.)

More people voted against Lincoln than for him in the election of 1860. In ten Southern States Lincoln didn't get a single vote! There were 2,815,617 votes against Lincoln and 1,866,452 for him. But he won by having a majority of the electoral votes . . . Lincoln was very much criticized by the press during his days in Washington but history tells us: "When confronted with anti-administration agitation in the press, Lincoln usually showed great toleration." It has also been said of Lincoln: "Liberalism with him was no garment; it was the fiber of his mind" . . . Following remark by Lincoln should be framed and hung in a prominent place somewhere in the White House: "I shall try to correct errors where shown to be errors, and I shall adopt new views just as they shall appear to be true views."



# Reporter AT LARGE



By PAUL B. BEERS

When the West Shore, in its incomparable style, voted against "Four More Years" for President Lincoln in 1864, Honest Abe could have been excused if he had given up on Central Pennsylvania.

Lincoln was defeated in Cumberland County by 752 votes. Just as bad was Adams County, home of the Ottenstein Tower. Only 10 months before the 1864 election day, Lincoln had traveled by rickety train to Gettysburg, eaten the local chow and given the finest speech ever made in the English tongue. For this, Adams County voted against Lincoln by 404 votes.

★ ★ ★

Dauphin County went with Lincoln twice. The first time, in 1860, Lincoln pulled a Dauphin County plurality of 1,775 votes. Had the Democrats had just one national candidate and not three, Lincoln could have lost. In 1864, his margin dropped to 1,139 votes. It was so close that Simon Cameron, the boss, ordered the first political poll in modern history. Slippery Simon wanted to make sure Lincoln had a chance at re-election before he paid for any ballot-box artistry that might be necessary.



ABRAHAM LINCOLN

Poor as Lincoln did, it was better than John F. Kennedy's record in 1960. Kennedy lost every precinct in Cumberland County and 127 of the 145 districts in Dauphin County.

There is an inverse relationship between Central Pennsylvania's thinking and what is history's eventual judgment. That's not always true but it is in a surprising number of cases, and Lincoln's was one of those.

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The old Patriot spoke for many when it editorialized after the Gettysburg Address that Lincoln "does not possess sense." He was, said some forgotten editor "more like a well-trained monkey than a man of sense and a gentleman." That assessment held in Bedford, Selinsgrove and elsewhere, too. He was described by the Lancaster Intelligencer, for example, as "a miserable, low buffoon who disgraces the presidential chair."

It was only Lincoln's assassination — on Good Friday, the first weekend of peace after the Civil War — that turned public opinion around in Central Pennsylvania. His funeral train passed through Harrisburg, and he lay in state at the old brick Capitol on April 21-22, 1865. From then on, he was the "Martyred Lincoln." No individual event, including the assassination of President Kennedy, affected this community more than "the sepulcher of a sorrow," as The Patriot put it, of the slaying of Lincoln.

What is the essence of Lincoln? Maybe Carl Sandburg said it best when he addressed Congress on the 150th anniversary of Lincoln's birth in 1959.



Lincoln had a quality that millions of people, said Sandburg, "would like to see spread everywhere over the world . . . We can't say exactly what it is but he had it . . . It is there in the lights and shadows of his personality, a mystery that can be lived but never fully spoken in words . . . Not often in the story of mankind does a man arrive on earth who is hard as rock and soft as drifting fog, who holds in his heart and mind the paradox of terrible storm and peace unspeakable and perfect."

He was an odd man.

On his last birthday, there is no indication that he even celebrated it. He signed an entrance paper for a student to go to West Point and he dismissed a death sentence against a captured Rebel spy.

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When he talked to politicians, his material often was mediocre, such as it was when he addressed the Pennsylvania Legislature here on his way to Washington to be inaugurated. When he talked or privately wrote to just plain citizens, he could be magnificent. Most presidents would have had a White House aide write them something snappy for Gettysburg, but not Lincoln.

He was the most experienced trial lawyer who ever became president, but he tolerated as an equal partner William Herndon, who was crude, a heavy drinker and didn't know much law. Lincoln, too, was another of those lawyers who died without a will.

Most perplexing about Lincoln is that he not only paid his taxes but overpaid them.

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"I don't know anything about money," he complained. "I never had enough of my own to fret me." That was true. When he became president he had just \$9,000 in savings and \$5,000 invested in real estate. He withdrew \$400 from the bank to pay for his inaugural trip.

His presidential salary was \$25,000 a year. He had \$91.66 withheld monthly for income taxes. For the tax year ending Dec. 31, 1863, Lincoln paid twice on one obligation. He declared his outside income to be \$1,183 and, taxed at one per cent, he somehow overpaid Internal Revenue by \$17.75. On his salary of \$25,000, he added \$583 in additional income and, on a tax of 5 per cent, paid \$1,279.15, just right. His overpayment wasn't caught until his estate was settled in 1872.

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Lincoln was worth \$83,343.70 when he died, but \$54,515 of that was in government bonds and notes. He left behind four uncashed salary warrants in his desk drawer.

By the time Supreme Court Justice David Davis, an old friend, finished handling the Lincoln estate, it had grown to \$110,975.62. Davis got a refund from Internal Revenue of \$3,555.95 for Mrs. Lincoln, and then graciously refused to accept a \$6,600 fee as the executor.

Just suppose Abraham Lincoln died worth 10 times as much as he was. Would posterity regard him as 10 times greater?



The final returns showed that he had carried all the Northern states but one. In New Jersey the vote was so close that for days neither the Republicans nor the Democrats knew who was the winner. The final result gave Lincoln four votes and Douglas three. California's electoral votes went to Lincoln, though his popular majority in that state was only 657.

In the South eleven out of the fifteen slave states voted for Breckinridge, three states voted for the Bell-Everett ticket, and only one—Missouri—for Douglas. From that whole region Lincoln had not a single electoral vote. In the popular vote Lincoln got 1,866,452; Breckinridge, 849,781; Douglas, 1,376,957; Bell, 588,879. The figures proved that the majority of the country was for union and peace. Breckinridge, the only secession candidate, was backed by less than one-fifth of the electorate.

STATES	POPULAR VOTE				ELECTORAL VOTE			
	Abraham Lincoln, Illinois Republican	Stephen A. Douglas, Illinois Democrat	John C. Breckinridge, Kentucky Democrat	John Bell, Tennessee Constitutional Union	Lincoln and Hamlin	Douglas and Johnson	Breckinridge and Lane	Bell and Everett
Alabama	13,651	48,831	27,875	—	—	—	—	—
Arkansas	—	227	20,004	—	—	—	—	—
California	50,173	58,551	6,817	—	—	—	—	—
Connecticut	43,702	35,522	34,613	3,311	—	—	—	—
Delaware	5,815	1,023	7,337	3,864	—	—	—	—
Florida	—	367	8,543	5,117	—	—	—	—
Georgia	—	11,500	51,880	12,880	—	—	—	—
Illinois	172,101	169,215	3,404	4,013	—	—	—	—
Indiana	130,013	119,517	1,510	5,106	—	—	—	—
Iowa	70,400	55,111	7,038	1,013	—	—	—	—
Kentucky	1,304	35,051	55,123	60,058	—	—	—	—
Louisiana	—	7,625	22,861	20,204	—	—	—	—
Maine	62,811	26,063	6,168	2,046	8	—	—	—
Maryland	14,111	5,000	42,482	41,700	—	—	—	—
Massachusetts	106,513	84,373	5,030	33,151	—	—	—	—
Michigan	88,480	65,057	8,825	10,505	—	—	—	—
Minnesota	23,069	11,020	748	62	4	—	—	—
Mississippi	—	3,283	49,797	25,040	—	—	—	—
Missouri	17,038	38,803	31,317	58,372	—	—	—	—
New Hampshire	31,210	24,851	2,112	441	5	—	—	—
New Jersey	55,174	62,801	—	—	4	3	—	—
New York	302,016	312,519	—	—	35	—	—	—
North Carolina	—	4,701	48,530	44,000	—	—	—	—
Ohio	231,010	187,232	11,405	12,101	21	—	—	—
Oregon	—	5,170	3,051	5,000	183	—	—	—
Pennsylvania	168,710	16,765	178,871	17,370	27	—	—	—
Rhode Island	12,244	7,707	—	—	4	—	—	—
South Carolina	—	—	—	—	8	—	—	—
Tennessee	—	11,350	63,700	69,371	—	—	—	—
Texas	—	—	47,548	15,438	—	—	—	—
Vermont	33,808	8,010	1,866	217	—	—	—	—
Virginia	1,919	10,600	7,100	71,681	101	5	—	—
Wisconsin	86,110	65,021	888	182	12	72	39	—
	1,866,452	1,376,957	810,731	588,879				

\* Electors were appointed by the legislature.

#### THE POPULAR AND ELECTORAL VOTES OF THE 1860 ELECTION.



Census of 1860

Connecticut	451,504
Illinois	1,704,291
Indiana	1,338,710
Iowa	613,279
Kansas	1,06,390
Kentucky	919,484
Maine	515,918
Massachusetts	1,221,432
Michigan	739,797
Missouri	1,063,489
New Hampshire	325,899
New Jersey	646,699
New York	3,831,590
Ohio	2,302,805
Pennsylvania	2,849,259
Rhode Island	170,649
Wisconsin	713,693
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4	26,706,425
	19,635,393

